

Agency: Commerce, Community and Economic Development**Grants to Named Recipients (AS 37.05.316)****Grant Recipient: Yakutat Salmon Board****Federal Tax ID: 92-6001319****Project Title:**

Yakutat Salmon Board - Region-wide Operating Expenses

State Funding Requested: \$ 250,000**House District: 5 - C**

One-Time Need

Brief Project Description:

The funding will be divided equally amongst the three watershed councils to cover operating expenses and to leverage federal dollars. The Yakutat Salmon Board will administer the grant for the rest of the councils.

Funding Plan:**Total Cost of Project: \$250,000**Funding Secured

Amount FY

Other Pending Requests

Amount FY

Anticipated Future Need

Amount FY

There is no other funding needed

Detailed Project Description and Justification:

The Southeast Alaska Watershed Coalition is comprised of three watershed councils from Yakutat, Haines, and Skagway. The watershed councils provide a forum for all stakeholders and community members to share concerns and address resource problems within the watersheds. The Southeast Alaska councils are active in regional seafood branding, community forest planning, tree thinning, water quality monitoring, stream restoration, and fisheries consulting. In addition, these councils secure funding and perform projects that would otherwise fall under the purview of the Department of Transportation. In securing funding for these smaller culvert projects, the councils free up DOT's time and resources to focus on other projects while still addressing the needs of the smaller communities and watersheds.

Also, the watershed councils have been very successful in bringing outside dollars into their communities and creating jobs.

Project Timeline:

Funding will be secured in the summer of 2008 with expenditures beginning immediately.

Entity Responsible for the Ongoing Operation and Maintenance of this Project:

Yakutat Salmon Board

Grant Recipient Contact Information:

Contact Name: Bill Lucey, Executive Director
Phone Number: 907-784-3329
Address: P.O. Box 160, Yakutat, AK 99689
Email: yakutat_salmon_board@yahoo.com

Has this project been through a public review process at the local level and is it a community priority? ☒ Yes ☐ No

SOUTHEAST ALASKA WATERSHED COALITION

C/O YAKUTAT SALMON BOARD
P.O. BOX 160
YAKUTAT ALASKA, 99689

February 2, 2007

Bill Thomas
State Capitol, Room 428
Juneau, Alaska, 99801-1182

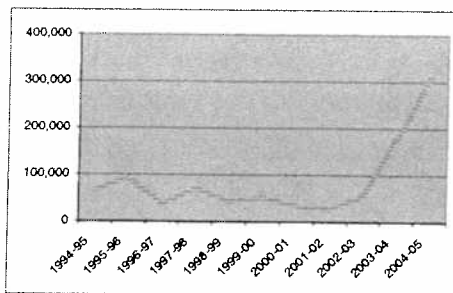
Re: Southeast Alaska Watershed Coalition Support

Dear Bill,

Thank you for taking the time to meet with members of the Southeast Alaska Watershed Coalition (SAWC) last week. We appreciated your time and interest in working with watershed council's in our communities: Skagway, Haines, and Yakutat. Please allow us to provide you with some history of our councils and the coalition. In 2002 Southeast Conference received Southeast Sustainable Salmon Funds to support the Community Watershed Project (CWP). This funding was awarded to six Watershed Councils that demonstrated community support and a mission to work on projects dedicated to improving the health of their local watersheds. The annual award of \$48,000 was granted for a period of two years to launch watershed councils in Skagway, Haines, Yakutat and three other communities in Southeast Alaska. The CWP funding enabled each of these councils the opportunity to seek additional funding and begin fish habitat restoration, stewardship, planning and other projects in their communities.

The Taiya Inlet Watershed Council in Skagway, Takshanuk Watershed Council in Haines, and Yakutat Salmon Board formed a coalition in 2004 to continue to support each member's projects and programs. SAWC seeks to act as a regional network that promotes watershed stewardship throughout Southeast Alaska, while supporting each council's individual efforts. The objectives of SAWC are to (1) promote stewardship of watershed resources regionwide; (2) provide region-wide skill, resources and knowledge sharing; and (3) ensure sustainability of watershed council services by diversifying the councils' funding base.

Watershed councils provide a forum for all stakeholders and community members to share concerns and address resource problems within the local watersheds, and provide opportunities to resolve conflicts in an open forum. They are proven successes across the country. States such as Oregon presently support watershed councils with dedicated state funding. Board members are typically diverse and have interests that include: commercial and sport fishing, forestry, community development, business interests, education and outreach to stakeholders. For example, Southeast Alaska councils are presently active in regional seafood branding, community forest planning, tree thinning, water quality monitoring, stream restoration, fisheries consulting, and natural resource education. Few, if any, of these much-needed community projects would have been initiated without support from CWP.



This graph depicts the economic response of a state investment of 48K/year in the Yakutat Salmon Board, beginning in 2003. Small amounts of public revenue injected into local economies can have large effects on contracts, job creation and pride in the community. The YSB has run 1.4 million dollars through the local economy over the last 11 years and employed over 30 residents. Newly formed councils in Haines and Skagway have also brought considerable funds into their communities and succeeded in creating jobs.

SOUTHEAST ALASKA WATERSHED COALITION

C/O YAKUTAT SALMON BOARD

P.O. BOX 160

YAKUTAT ALASKA, 99689

Some rural communities have a disadvantage in both tax base and qualified personnel. One way to offset this is to bring in outside funding and train local people to initiate the projects previously described. The increase in a talented local workforce and rejuvenation of productive forests and rivers will in turn benefit both quality of life and stimulate local economies by bolstering tourism, sustainable forestry, and maintaining productivity of commercial and sport fisheries. The Community Watershed Project has brought to focus the valuable connection between the health of our fishery and the health of our local and regional economies.

To date each council has made significant contributions to education, stewardship, habitat restoration and the fostering of sustainable industries within their respective communities. Attached is a list of accomplishments from each council and the economic return from the original investment in project dollars. The intent of our request is to supply operating expenses for the councils. The SAWC member councils in turn become conduits for federal and foundation funding thereby generating a 2 or 3:1 ratio of economic return in matching grants for salary, rent, equipment, and contracts. The key to the success of each council is securing funding for overhead. This is essential for creating matches for grants and for fostering an incentive to maintain long-term staff with vested interest in their communities.

This proposal would create a line item in the state budget to provide \$83,333 for each member council of the Southeast Alaska Watershed Coalition. This total of \$250,000 in the Fiscal Year 2007 budget will ensure the success of these councils for the next year and possibly many years to come.

- **State budget line item of \$250,000 for three SAWC councils, administered through the Yakutat Salmon Board**
- **Annual report to state legislators on budgets and project accomplishments**

Thank you for taking the time to review this request. If you have questions, please contact Bill Lucey at 784-3329. Attached is a list of projects that each of our councils have initiated and/or completed since funding began in 2003.

Sincerely,

Bill Lucey, Executive Director
Yakutat Salmon Board

Tim Shields, Executive Director
Takshanuk Watershed Council

Dakota Hankin, Executive Director
Taiya Inlet Watershed Council

SOUTHEAST ALASKA WATERSHED COALITION

CO YAKUTAT SALMON BOARD

P.O. BOX 160

YAKUTAT ALASKA, 99689

Council Accomplishments

Takshanuk Watershed Council

- Sawmill Creek Restoration Monitoring Project- post-project biological monitoring
- Sawmill Creek Alaska Clean Water Action grant for debris removal and sediment control
- Portage Cove beach debris removal and study
- EcoStudies Education Project- elementary school outdoor education program
- TWC Internships- opportunities for high school students to work with TWC staff
- Muskrat Creek Culvert Replacement- project coordination and biological monitoring
- Holgate Creek Monitoring Project- habitat and biological research work
- Holgate Creek Streamkeepers- fostering citizen involvement in creek stewardship
- Chilkoot River Corridor Bear Monitoring- funded public bear awareness outreach
- Chilkoot River Corridor Trail Project- erosion control trail building project
- Project Toad Watch- fostering citizen science for amphibian conservation
- Eulachon Outreach- coordinating subsistence user and agency cooperation
- Watershed Weekly- co-producing weekly public radio program with TIWC

Yakutat Salmon Board

- CBY & Kwaan Forest Plan – planning for sustainable forest management
- Greater Situk Watershed Assessment – Current condition analysis
- Conservation Action Plan – Multi-year plan for stream and forest rehab.
- 5 culvert and 3 bridge replacements – Continue with fish passage projects
- 300 acres tree thinning – Funded for an additional 1000 acres (10 years)
- ¼ mile ADA trail, ½ mile foot trail – Continue to expand city trails
- Coded Wire Tagging of coho smolt – Continue to assist ADF&G in research
- Ophir Creek spawning escapement counts –Continue to assist in management
- Northern pike eradication – Continue to assist with pike control
- Exotic weed inventory and control – Initiated program and passed it to the Tribe
- School Field trips – Regular field trips with Yakutat School System
- Stream-flow gauging – Maintaining stream gauging network with partners
- Groundwater monitoring – measuring land uplift through groundwater levels
- Beluga Whale Biopsy – Assist NMFS research to protect fishing rights & whales
- Marine mammal stranding response – Partner with YTT for sampling animals
- Regional Branding – Initiated Yakutat Wild brand salmon marketing program
- ATV Educational DVD – Filmed ATV issue from local viewpoints for schools
- Solid Waste Planning – Hosting Yakutat solid waste planning committee
- Formerly Used Defense Sites Cleanup – Hosting public information repository
- Student Intern Program – Three years of hiring local students for summer crews

Taiya Inlet Watershed Council

- Pullen Creek/Congress Way fish passage and habitat restoration
- Pullen Creek Action Plan – plan for stream stewardship
- Stream stewardship brochure – Educational information for residents and landowners
- Pullen Creek Assessment – water quality and biological sampling
- Local Stream Cleanups – Recruited volunteers for water and garbage cleanup
- Watershed Education – Educational sessions on watersheds, habitat and restoration
- Invasive Plant Management – White sweetclover control, education and removal
- Watershed Assessment – assessing habitat and impairments in local streams
- Stormwater Mapping – cataloging local system for future stormwater management
- Watershed Weekly- co-producing weekly public radio program with TIWC

SOUTHEAST ALASKA WATERSHED COALITION

CO YAKUTAT SALMON BOARD

P.O. BOX 160

YAKUTAT ALASKA, 99689

Southeast Alaska Watershed Coalition Request for
FY 2009 Continuing Improvement Project

Project Description: Administrative support for member watershed coalitions

Requested Amount: **\$250,000**

Matching Amount: **\$250,000**

Duration of funding: **FY 2009 – FY 2011**

Annual Allocation: **\$83,333**

Annual Allocation for Watershed Councils in Haines, Skagway and Yakutat: **\$27,778**

<i>Member Community</i>	<i>FY 2009</i>	<i>Match</i>	<i>FY 2010</i>	<i>Match</i>	<i>FY2011</i>	<i>Match</i>
Haines	\$27,778	\$27,778	\$27,778	\$27,778	\$27,778	\$27,778
Skagway	\$27,778	\$27,778	\$27,778	\$27,778	\$27,778	\$27,778
Yakutat	\$27,778	\$27,778	\$27,778	\$27,778	\$27,778	\$27,778
Total	\$83,333	\$83,333	\$83,333	\$83,333	\$83,333	\$83,333

Budget Description:

The intent of this funding is to provide basic support for the three watershed councils working in Northern Southeast Alaska. Basic support needs include utilities, office supplies, rents, and staff wages for seeking project-specific grant funding. This funding would be a continuation of state support which historically occurred through the Southeast Conference and Alaska Department of Fish & Game Community Watershed Project from 2003-2006.

Match amounts will be met through administrative costs associated derived from awarded grant funding.

The requested amount will function as a buffer throughout the year as grant funding is often delayed and not all grant requests are successful.

Community Profiles:

Haines

Location

Haines is located in the Upper Lynn Canal about 70 miles North of Juneau. The town of Haines, Alaska helps define the lands and waters served by the Takshanuk Watershed Council. Nestled at the western base of the Takshanuk Range, with the Chilkat basin to the south and the Chilkoot and Ferebee basins to the north, Haines is economically linked to the fisheries resources abundant in these vibrant watersheds. For this reason, they are the Takshanuk Watershed Council's areas of emphasis. These estuarine ecosystems have also been the nexus of an ancient trade route connecting inland native groups to the sea, and the current Tlingit village of Klukwan is located at the confluence of the Chilkat, Tsirku, and Klehini rivers with the Pacific Ocean.

History & Culture

The Haines area was called "Dei Shu" by the Tlingit, meaning "end of the trail." The Chilkat Tlingit controlled the trading routes between the coast and the Interior. The first non-Native to settle here was George Dickinson, an agent for the North West Trading Co., in 1880. In 1881, S. Young Hall, a Presbyterian minister, received permission from the Chilkat to build the Willard Mission and school. The mission was renamed Haines in 1884 in honor of Mrs.

Southeast Alaska Watershed Coalition Request for FY 2009 Continuing Improvement Project

F.E. Haines, Secretary of the Presbyterian Women's Executive Society of Home Missions, who had raised funds for the mission's construction. During the Klondike gold rush in the late 1890s, it grew as a mining supply center, since the Dalton Trail from Chilkat Inlet to Whitehorse offered an easier route to the Yukon for prospectors. Gold was also discovered 36 miles from Haines in 1899 at the Porcupine District. Four canneries had been constructed in the area by the turn of the century. The first permanent U.S. military installation was constructed south of Haines in 1904, Fort William H. Seward. In 1922, the fort was renamed Chilkoot Barracks. Until World War II, it was the only U.S. Army post in Alaska. It was deactivated in 1946 and sold as surplus property to a group of veterans who established it as Port Chilkoot. The City of Port Chilkoot was incorporated in 1956. Haines Borough formed as a third-class borough on August 29, 1968. In 1970, Port Chilkoot merged with Haines into the City of Haines. In 1972, the post was designated a national historic site and the name, Fort William Seward, was restored. The last of the early canneries closed in 1972 due to declining fish stocks. Expansion of the timber industry in the early 1970s fueled growth. In 1974, the Borough annexed 420 square miles to the south, including Excursion Inlet. In 1978, it annexed the former military petroleum distribution facility at Lutak Inlet. The City of Haines and the Haines Borough were consolidated on October 17, 2002, resulting in the establishment of a home-rule borough.

Land, Environment & Climate

The Haines Borough encompasses 2,343.7 sq. miles of land and 382.1 sq. miles of water. Haines experiences a maritime climate characterized by cool summers and mild winters. Summer temperatures range from 50 to 70; winter temperatures range from 10 to 35. Haines is home to the world's largest congregation of bald eagles, who feed from the warm spring-fed rivers. The Chilkat Bald Eagle Preserve is a major attraction in Southeast.

Land Ownership

Land ownership in the Borough includes: Alaska Department of Natural Resources; Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities; Haines Borough; Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority and private land owners.

Population Served

The population of the community consists of 15.6% Alaska Native or part Native. During the 2000 U.S. Census, total housing units numbered 1,419, and vacant housing units numbered 428. Vacant housing units used only seasonally numbered 301. U.S. Census data for Year 2000 showed 992 residents as employed. The unemployment rate at that time was 13.66 percent, although 46.78 percent of all adults were not in the work force. The median household income was \$40,772, per capita income was \$22,090, and 10.67 percent of residents were living below the poverty level.

Gender - The gender population of Haines is relatively even with 50.6% (1,211) males and 49.4% (1,181) females. This can be compared to the state as whole where the percentages are 48.3 percent and 51.7 percent, respectively.

Age - The median age in Haines (40.7) is eight years above the average of the state (32.4). The 2000 population (total of 2392) was distributed 18 and over: 1,779, age 21 and over: 1,719 and age 62 and over: 307.

Income and Employment -The Borough School District, retail trade, business and transportation services, fishing and forestry provide the majority of employment in the Borough. 128 area residents hold commercial fishing permits. Many jobs are seasonal. Tourism and the traffic Haines draws as a result of its road connection to the State Ferry are important. In 2001, Royal Caribbean Cruise Lines ceased serving Haines as a port of call.

Southeast Alaska Watershed Coalition Request for FY 2009 Continuing Improvement Project

Today, around 45,000 cruise ship passengers visit yearly. The Chilkat Bald Eagle Preserve draws visitors from around the world. Haines is a major trans-shipment point because of its ice-free, deep water port and dock, and year-round road access to Canada and Interior Alaska. It is a northern terminus of the Alaska State Ferry System, and a hub for transportation to and from southeast Alaska. Haines has a 4,600' airport runway. In 2000, 13.7% of the available workforce (age 16+) was unemployed and seeking work. The per capita income in 2000 was \$22,090, with 10.7% of residents living below the poverty level.

Skagway

Location

Skagway is located at the northernmost point of the Inside Passage in Southeast Alaska—100 air miles north of Juneau and 108 road miles south of Whitehorse, Yukon Territory, Canada. Skagway lies at approximately, latitude 59.458 and longitude -135.314.

History & Culture

The northern Lynn Canal was the ancestral territory of the Tlingits before the discovery of gold in the Klondike in 1896. The Chilkoot Tlingits occupied land east of the Chilkat Peninsula ridge line, and included the Dyea and Skagway valleys. Pre-1887 - Skagua, as it is known by the Tlingit, meaning windy place, is used by Chilkoots and Chilkats for hunting and fishing. A few of these Native Americans settle in the quieter areas of Smuggler's Cove, Nahku Bay and Dyea, head of the Chilkoot trail, a centuries-old Indian trading route becoming popular with early prospectors heading into the Yukon. In the 1880s, U.S. Navy and Army patrols establish federal presence in the area. The Klondike Gold Rush era began when gold was discovered on Bonanza Creek of the Klondike River in 1896. The resultant gold rush that occurred between the years 1896-1899 brought 20,000 prospectors through the Skagway River and Taiya River Valleys to climb either the Chilkoot Pass or the White Pass trail to the gold fields. By 1900, when Skagway became Alaska's first incorporated city, there were already platted streets and lots, schools, hospitals, wharves, electric street lights, and a post office. After the prosperous gold rush years had passed for Skagway, the population and the economy stabilized around the White Pass and Yukon Route built from tidewater to Whitehorse, Yukon. During World War II, Skagway experienced an economic boom as the town became an important center in Alaska's defense system. Skagway also experienced healthy years in the late 1960's through the mid 1970's with the opening of the Cyprus Anvil lead-zinc mine in Faro, Canada. In 1976, the U.S. Congress authorized the Klondike Gold Rush National Historic Park and funded restoration work of historic buildings and trails in and around Skagway. In recent years, the cruise ship industry has boomed throughout Southeast Alaska and today, the tourism industry is Skagway's economic mainstay.

Land, Environment & Climate

The entire Borough encompasses 452.4 square miles of land and 11.9 miles of water. Skagway experiences a maritime climate with cool summers and mild winters. Average summer temperatures range from 45-67 degrees Fahrenheit and winter temperatures average 18-37 degrees Fahrenheit. Within the shadow of the mountains, Skagway receives less rain than is typical of Southeast Alaska.

Land Ownership

Land ownership in the Skagway Borough includes: National Park Service, Alaska Department of Natural Resources; Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities; Skagway Borough; Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority and private land owners.

Southeast Alaska Watershed Coalition Request for
FY 2009 Continuing Improvement Project

Population Served

The population of Skagway from the 2000 census was 862¹, however, the summer population almost triples in size due to the influx of the cruise ship industry and related local businesses. Skagway is a homogenous community with a population made up of 94% whites and 6% Alaska Natives.

Gender – The population of Skagway (862) is relatively even with 52.2% (450) males and 47.8% (412) females. This can be compared to the state as whole where the percentages are 48.3 percent and 51.7 percent, respectively.

Age – The median age in Skagway is 39.2, which is almost seven years above the average of the state (32.4). The 2000 population (total of 862) was distributed 18 and over: 685, age 21 and over: 671 and age 62 and over: 93.

Income and Employment – The primary types of employment in Skagway revolve around seasonal tourism industry. Employment by occupation includes management and professional, construction and maintenance, service and sales. A variety of industries represents the services available to tourists including: retail trade, transportation, arts, entertainment, recreation, accomodation and food services. The local school is also a primary employer in Skagway. In 2000, 14.1% of the available workforce (age 16+) was unemployed and seeking work. The per capita income in 2000 was \$27,700, with only 3.7% of residents living below the poverty level.

Skagway's economy is primarily centralized around the tourism industry, although other economic attractants includes:

Recreation and Sports: Hunting, sport fishing, crabbing, hiking, kayaking, beach combing, bicycling, rafting, canoeing, boat tours, camping, flightseeing, nature tours, mountain climbing, whale watching, bird and wildlife viewing, glacier viewing, skiing, horseback riding, dog sledding

Nature and Wildlife: Birds and wildlife in the region include black and brown bears, mountain goats, wolves, deer, bald eagles, sea lions, seals, whales, salmon and trout. Glaciers and wilderness areas are also tourist attractions.

Culture and History: Tlingit Native Culture Trail of '98 Museum in Skagway, Tlingit Native Culture, and abundant Klondike Gold Rush history, Klondike Gold Rush International Historical Park, City of Skagway Historical Museum and Archive, Ghost Town of Dyea

Yakutat

Location

Yakutat is located on the Gulf of Alaska, 225 miles northwest of Juneau, at the mouth of Yakutat Bay. Because it is one of the few refuges for watercraft along a very long coastline, this mild, often rainy location has a long history as a port and trading center.

History & Culture

Yakutat, meaning “the place where the canoes rest,” has a cultural history that is strongly tied to the traditional Tlingit and Eyak cultures. More recent influences include Russian, English and American traders. The area's diverse cultural history has been originally traced to Eyak-speaking people from the Copper River area. Conflict with Tlingits from the south led to Tlingit settlement of the area and the expansion of the Tlingit cultural influence. In the 18th and 19th centuries, fur traders and explores came to the region from England, France, Spain and Russia. The next major influence came at the end of the 19th century with the

¹ State of Alaska, Community Database Online

Southeast Alaska Watershed Coalition Request for FY 2009 Continuing Improvement Project

area's black sand beaches being mined for gold. A cannery, sawmill, store and railroad were constructed beginning in 1903 by the Stimson Lumber Co. Most residents moved to the current site of Yakutat to be closer to this cannery, which operated through 1970. During World War II, a large aviation garrison and paved runway were constructed. Troops were withdrawn after the war, but the runway is still in use. The City of Yakutat was formed in 1948 and in 1992 was combined with the Borough.

Land, Environment & Climate

The City and Borough of Yakutat encompasses 7,650.5 square miles of land and 1,808.8 square miles of water². The area is characterized by a maritime climate, meaning relatively mild and often rainy weather. Yakutat receives some of the heaviest precipitation in the state, averaging 132 inches, including 219 inches of snowfall. Temperatures range from 42 to 60 degrees Fahrenheit in the summer to 17 to 39 degrees in the winter³.

Land Ownership

Land ownership in the City and Borough includes: Alaska Department of Natural Resources; Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities; Yak-tat Kwaan (an ANCSA corporation); City and Borough of Yakutat; Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority and private land owners.

Population Served

In 2006, the population of the City and Borough of Yakutat was 634 individuals (DCCED, 2006). This figure is a decline from the Census 2000 figure of 808 individuals. Of those counted in 2000, just under half, 46 percent, identified themselves as Alaska Native. Fifty percent of the population in 2000 was white, with the remaining percentages being split among the Asian, Hawaiian native or black populations. It should be noted that Borough formed in 1992, increasing the area of the City substantially.

Gender - The population in Yakutat is slightly skewed toward a higher male population with 40.7 percent female and 59.3 percent male. This can be compared to the state as whole where the percentages are 48.3 percent and 51.7 percent, respectively.

Age - Compared with the state, Yakutat has a much higher percentage of the population in the 45-64 age group, 28.7 percent compared to 22.3 percent for the state. This is also reflected in the median age which is 37.2 for Yakutat and 32.4 for the state.

Economy

Overview - Fishing is integral to both the lifestyle and economy of Yakutat. Most Yakutat residents depend on subsistence hunting and fishing. Much of the area's economy is dependent on fishing or fish processing. In recent years, tourism based on hunting and fishing has become an increasingly important sector of the local economy.

Income and Employment - Both the per capita income and median household income are similar to the statewide income figures which are \$22,660 and \$51,571, respectively. The employment picture in Yakutat is heavily dependant on, as mentioned above, fishing, fish processing and government. The Yakutat Tlingit Tribe and the services it provides to the community is another significant employer locally. In 2000, 162 residents held commercial fishing permits.

² State of Alaska, DCCED, Community Database, November 2007.

³ Ibid.



Municipality of Skagway

Gateway to the Klondike
P.O. Box 415, Skagway, AK 99840
Phone: 907-983-2297
Fax: 907-983-2151
www.skagway.org

Taiya Inlet Watershed Council
P.O. Box 827
Skagway, AK 99840
(907)983-2426
www.taiya.org

February 25, 2008

To Whom It May Concern:

The Municipality of Skagway has been a long time supporter of the Taiya Inlet Watershed Council. Their restoration efforts and commitment to the community of Skagway have been of recognized benefit to the Municipality and the residents and visitors who live, work, and play here.

The long term strategies of the Taiya Inlet Watershed Council parallel the needs and goals of the Municipality and have worked to increase the quality of life, the economy and environmentally sound watershed management practices. Since its inception in 2003, the Taiya Inlet Watershed Council has injected over \$400,000 into the local economy by using locally hired contractors for restoration work, providing jobs and using local services in the community of Skagway.

Some of the projects that the Municipality has been in partnership with the Taiya Inlet Watershed Council are: the multi-year, quarter of a million dollar restoration project in an urban and catalogued anadromous fish stream called Pullen Creek, assistance with the Dyea Community Advisory Board's implementation of a land management plan for a popular recreational area called the Dyea Flats, a mapping and monitoring project to increase knowledge on Stormwater best management practices, invasive plant species eradication and management and the current re-write of the comprehensive plan for the Municipality of Skagway.

The Municipality hereby encourages the ongoing success of the Taiya Inlet Watershed Council and provides written support for their efforts in the community of Skagway.

Sincerely,

Thomas D. Cochran, Mayor
Borough Assembly Members, Municipality of Skagway